



Friday
April 8, 2011

Weekly Views

Kairos weekend was held at the Indiana State Prison. 36 men completed the religious program and approximately 100 past offender graduates came to celebrate the completion of another class. 35 volunteers helped facilitate the program.

Westville Correctional Facility (WCC) welcomed Mike Barber, of Mike Barber Ministries and former professional football star, to host his "Week-End of Excitement" Prison Ministry. Mr. Barber spent two days moving around WCC and spoke to hundreds of offenders at four separate locations around the facility. This was Mr. Barber's second visit to Westville.



Dugger Elementary 6th graders got a financial boost from Wabash Valley Correctional Facility, as they gear up for their annual St. Louis Field trip. The 6th grade class received \$500 from the Wabash Fatherhood Program and the PLUS unit donated a custom quilt for the students to raffle. Class representatives were all smiles for the presentation by Fatherhood Program Coordinator Michele Lincoln. (see photo left)

The Pendleton Juvenile Correctional Facility (PNJCF) collaboration with Habitat for Humanity of Madison County continues to boast a great deal of success. The partnership between Habitat for Humanity and PNJCF allows the students to give back to the community in the true spirit of Restorative Justice. The students go out to the work site once per week and assist other habitat volunteers in building a home for a deserving low-income family. This partnership not only provides a new beginning for a well deserving family but also gives the students a chance to have some sense of accomplishment.

The Inside/Out Dad program, under the Family Management Department, is hosting its Caregiver's event in the Visiting Room of Correctional Industrial Facility for the mothers, grandmothers, and grandfathers of the offender's children. The event is held to thank the caregivers for carrying all the responsibilities of the family while the father is incarcerated.

Dr. Susan Lockwood, IDOC's Juvenile Education Coordinator, has been elected to a two-year term as President of the National Council of State and Federal Directors. The council is composed of correctional education directors from across the nation and serves as a conduit between federal agencies and correctional education programs at both the state and federal level. The council is also a formal clearing house for directors to share best practices on a regular basis.

Logansport Juvenile Correctional Facility Held a Clean Lifestyle Is Freedom Forever (CLIFF) graduation for six students. This is the 34th CLIFF graduation that the facility has held with a total of 263 students from the program.

Pendleton Juvenile Correctional Facility had five students pass the ServSafe exam to earn their certification from the National Restaurant Association (NRA). With the successful completion the NRA's ServSafe exam, students earn their certification which helps open doors to employment and advancement within the restaurant and hospitality industry.

In collaboration with Panda Express, the Religious Services Department at the Indianapolis Re-Entry Educational Facility (IREF) sponsored a fundraiser in which 20% of purchases made by IREF residents, staff, volunteers, and patrons from the community was donated to the Angel Food Ministries (AFM) located at Ritter Avenue Free Methodist Church. \$603.38 was raised to purchase AFM food boxes for families in need.

Congratulations to Correctional Sergeant Robert Marvell who was recognized at the Pendleton Correctional Facility for his promotion to Lieutenant.

Nine Ball State University psychology students visited the Pendleton Correctional Facility this week and were provided a tour by Community Services Director Wayne Scaife.

Logansport Juvenile Correctional Facility held a GED graduation ceremony for 18 students who successfully completed their GED. Two of the 18 students received an honors diploma. Local businessman Milton Cole was the Keynote Speaker.

Indianapolis Re-entry Educational Facility Superintendent Beckie Bennett announces that Angel Vélez has been promoted to the position of Assistant Superintendent at IREF. Mr. Vélez has been with IREF since December 2009, serving in the capacity of Acting Assistant Superintendent of Operations in which he oversees Custody, Contract Services, Training and Internal Affairs. He will continue these current responsibilities as the Assistant Superintendent. Mr. Vélez is a 16-year veteran with the Department and currently serves as an IDOC Police Officer.

The Correctional Industrial Facility hosted its ninth weekend for the Preventative Relationship Enhancement Program (PREP) and had seven new GED graduates.